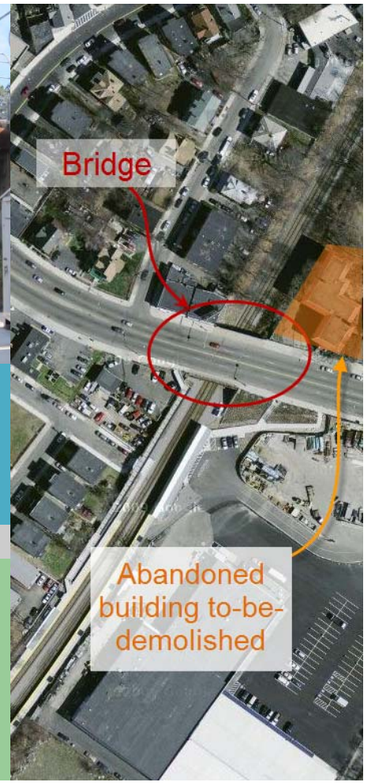
Accelerated Bridge Program
10 Park Plaza, Rm. 6500
Boston, MA 02116

Innovation, Efficiency, Transparency



A variable message board

Morton St. Bridge Replacement Team:

- *Governor Deval Patrick*
- *Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray*
- *Jeffrey Mullan, Transportation Secretary*
- *Luisa Paiewonsky, Highway Division Administrator*
- *Frank Tramontozzi, Chief Engineer*
- *Shoukry Elnahal, Deputy Chief Engineer for Bridges & Tunnels*
- *Alex Bardow, State Bridge Engineer, Director of Technical Services*
- *Tom Donald, Director of Project Development*
- *Walter Heller, Director of Project Delivery & Preservation*
- *Matt Hopkinson, Project Manager*
- *Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, Consulting Engineers*

Community Engagement and Outreach

Q: How will MassDOT communicate with the public regarding the project and closures, schedules and detours?

A: We will communicate in multiple ways to make sure that the local community and travelling public are well-informed regarding all aspects of this special, historic project. Expect to see variable message boards; road signs; flyers such as this posted at community centers, libraries and on the web; multi-media coverage; MassDOT blog postings, tweets, MBTA bus signs and more.

You can learn more about this project by viewing the materials used during the presentation at the most recent public information meeting. You can also look up information about this and any other MassDOT project by using *Project Info* on the MassDOT site.

You may also contact MassDOT for more information at *feedback@state.ma.us.*

MassDOT BLOG twitter YouTube flickr MassDOT Social Media

Visit us online!

Project Info

- ABP home page: www.mass.gov/acceleratedbridges
- MassDOT Blog: www.mass.gov/blog/transportation
- Project Info Site: go to www.mass.gov/massdot/highway, then click on the project info icon at the bottom right the page

Structure Description: Boston, B-16-163, Morton St. over MBTA and CSX Railroad.

Project Info Number: 603654

Advertising date: June 26, 2010

Bridge Owner: MassDOT

Project Owner: MassDOT, Accelerated Bridge Program

April, 2010

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Morton St. Bridge Replacement

Project Overview

Governor Deval Patrick's Accelerated Bridge Program (ABP) is currently designing a bridge to replace the structurally deficient bridge which carries Morton Street across the MBTA Commuter Rail Tracks in Mattapan. MassDOT will also install new, adequate lighting as part of the project.

MassDOT chose to use Accelerated Bridge Construction Methods for this site to minimize the impacts of construction on the community.

This bridge project will be among the first in the state to utilize Accelerated Bridge Construction techniques, meaning that the new bridge will be built off-site and then moved into place using special heavy lifting equipment. Accelerated Bridge Construction Techniques will allow the bridge to be replaced while all four lanes of traffic are open (except for a ten-day road closure). In contrast, conventional methods would require years of lane closures and traffic delays while construction occurs.

Site work will begin in fall 2010. The first work will include demolishing the abandoned police building and performing rodent control in preparation for the building's demolition. It will be demolished to create a work area for the bridge construction. A utility crossing will be created so that the bridge demolition and construction can occur. The new bridge will then be built. Once it is complete, the existing bridge will be demolished and the new bridge will be moved into place during the ten-day bridge closure period.

The bridge will close for the move at 10:00 PM on a Friday in the fall of 2011 and will reopen at 5:00 AM two Mondays later. Pedestrian access to the platforms will be maintained at all times. There will be vigorous public outreach in the months before the closure to ensure public awareness of the project and ten-day traffic impact.

To date, MassDOT has held one public information meeting and two public hearings to inform the public about the Morton Street Bridge Replacement Project and to provide an opportunity for the members of the community to ask questions.

This brochure is intended to be part of the overall public outreach for the project. MassDOT's ABP communicates with the public through many channels. Public Meetings and Hearings are announced on the website and in local newspapers. The presentation materials are available on our website, too.

We have designed this project to have the absolute minimum impact on the surrounding community's residents, businesses and the travelling public.

This project-specific publication is the first of its kind for the ABP. In it you will find answers to the many thoughtful questions asked by the community during the public meeting and hearings.

The project is currently in the design stage, so the details you'll read in this document may change as the design progresses. You will notice that detour routes have not been finalized, for example. Our goal is to inform you as much as we can today— and keep you informed in the future.

Rendering courtesy of FST

Anticipated Project Milestones:

Advertising Date— 6/26/2010

Begin Site Preparation— 6/2010

Bridge closure for move— 10 PM on a Friday in Fall, 2011

Reopen bridge to traffic— 5 AM two Mondays after closure

(bridge closed for no more than 10 days)

Ensuring Safety and Health

Q: How will asbestos be removed and how will MassDOT ensure environmental safety during this project?

A: Safety and health are the primary concerns of MassDOT. The Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) requires certain studies be conducted prior to the start of removing asbestos and hazardous materials. Three reports have been generated to meet these requirements. The reports describe the locations and amounts of hazardous materials on-site which include, asbestos, lead, mercury, and other materials usually found in building materials. MassDEP requires that the people overseeing the cleanup and removal of hazardous materials be specially licensed by them. These Licensed Site Professionals are held liable for their thoroughness in cleaning up contaminated sites. A Licensed Site Professional will oversee the removal and

The abandoned police building will be demolished as part of this project.

cleanup of the contaminated material that would otherwise be disturbed by construction.

Before demolition of the building, a licensed asbestos abatement contractor will remove all asbestos and hazardous materials in accordance with strict controls. Among other methods, plastic sheeting will be used to cover all openings in the building. The asbestos insulation will be moistened to prevent airborne movement and special vacuum cleaners will remove all traces of dust from the inside of the building, as well as from the workers' clothing each time they exit the building.

MassDOT has a department that makes sure the DEP is made aware of all environmental conditions and that they are satisfied with the outcome.

In order to ensure rodent control, MassDOT has a special contract item. Traps will be set in advance of the removal of building materials and they will be maintained on a regular basis. The contractor will be held responsible for rodent control.

Complaints can be made to *feedback@state.ma.us.* Complaints will be received by the Resident Engineer who will take immediate action to fix the problem.

Project Labor Force

Q: Will jobs be available for local residents?

A: Possibly. The state cannot adopt or implement a local hiring policy; however, the state can and has established labor participation goals for minorities and women. These goals can be used to meet the employment aspirations of local residents.

The Accelerated Bridge Program is required to select the contractor who provides the lowest bid. This contractor may be from anywhere in the United States, although to date 60 of 71 contracts have been awarded to Massachusetts businesses, and seven have been awarded to contractors from other New England states. The contractor who wins the bid may need personnel. You can see a list of contracts and contractors at http://www.eot.state.ma.us/acceleratedbridges/ABPProjectList.pdf .

Contractors may also use the *Bid Opportunities* link on the Project Info page

to find opportunities throughout the Commonwealth.

Reducing Business Impacts

Q: Will businesses affected by this project be financially compensated for losses of revenue?

*A:*MassDOT has designed this project and selected the method of construction with the intent of reducing the impact to the community, travelling public and local businesses to the greatest extent possible.

The Accelerated Bridge Program does not have funding to mitigate construction's impacts on businesses, but the duration of construction impacts will be quite brief for this project— the road closure will be limited to ten days.

Currently all communities throughout the Commonwealth cope with the effects of construction projects. It is our goal that this project will serve as an example of how MassDOT can design innovative projects which will to reduce the community impacts of construction.

School Buses

Q: How will parents and guardians be notified of potential changes to school bus stops, routes and schedules during the ten-day closure period?

A: School bus routes and stops are determined each year based on student needs. Parents will be notified of any changes by the City of Boston Public School Department. If you have any questions contact the City of Boston School Dept. Hotline at 617-630-9520

Utility Service

Q: Will there be any interruption in utility services during this project?

A: Due to utility redundancy in the area, we do not anticipate any interruption to utility service. Redundancy means that if one avenue of service needs to be closed temporarily, residents will be served by another. If an interruption must occur, you will be notified by the utility company in question in advance of the interruption.

Commuter Rail

Q: Will there be any interruption in commuter rail service during this project?

A: No. This project will not affect commuter rail service. Commuter rail trains will continue to operate on their regular schedule for the duration of the project and pedestrian access to the platforms will be available at all times during construction.

Maintaining MBTA Service for Bus Passengers

Q: How will bus routes be affected?

A: The #21 and #26 buses will be affected for the ten days that the Morton Street Bridge will be closed. Although final routes have not yet been determined, MassDOT is working with the MBTA to develop the best possible bus route plan to make sure bus riders are affected in the least possible way during the ten-day closure. For your reference, current maps of the #21 and #26 are shown here for your information.

The community will be notified when the final bus detour routes are determined.

Q: How will the MBTA notify users?

A: The MBTA will notify users of bus detours via road signs and signs on buses. MassDOT will engage the community through many forms of media in the weeks and months prior to the ten-day closure.